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ACTION EA-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-20 NEA-13 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-07 L-04 NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20
USIA-12 NIC-01 UPW-01 RSR-01 /130 W
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R 281422Z MAY 70
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7175
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY DJAKARTA
AMEMBASSY HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USDEL FRANCE
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
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CINCPAC FOR POLAD POL 15-1 POL 30 CAMB

SUBJ: SOVIET PRESS ON SIHANOUK AND CAMBODIAN EVELOPMENTS

(2) REF: MOSCOW 2766 POL 27 CAMB

1. PRAVDA MAY 28 REPORT OF SIHANOUK'S PRESENCE IN HANOI IS MOST ATTENTION ACCORDED HIS ACTIVITIES IN SOME TIME. MOSCOW NEWSPAPERS ALSO CLOSELY FOLLOWING DIPLOMATIC AND MILITARY

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ACTIVITIES BETWEEN PHNOM PENH AND ITS ANTICOMMUNIST NEIGHBORS.

2. IN REPORT FROM ITS HANOI CORRESPONDENT, PRAVDA IDENTIFIES PRINCE SIHANOUK AS HEADING A "NATIONAL DELEGATION (AS OPPOSED TO STATE OR GOVERNMENTAL). PENH NOUTH IDENTIFIED AS PRIMIN - OF ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY AND POLITBURO CHAIRMAN OF NATIONAL UNITED FRONT OF CAMBODIA. OTHER NEWSPAPERS SILENT ON VISIT.

3. PRAVDA CITES DRV PRESIDENT AS SAYING VISIT OF "PARTICULARLY GREAT SIGNIFICANCE" IN HISTORY OF DRV-CAMBODIAN RELATIONS. SIHANOUK REPORTED AS SAYING THERE NO CHOICE BUT TO FIGHT ON AGAINST COMMON US ENEMY UNTIL IT WITHDRAWS FROM INDOCHINA.

4. WHILE SILENT ON PHNOM PENH-SAIGON ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS, MOSCOW NEWSPAPERS REPORT AGREEMENT FOR GVN FORCES TO REMAIN IN CAMBODIA, AND NOTE "LARGE" THAI MILITARY DELEGATION IN PHNOM PENH TO NEGOTIATE "CONCRETE" MILITARY ASSISTANCE. US MILITARY AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE ALSO REPORTED. (IT CAN HARDLY BE LOST ON SOVIET READERS THAT THESE DEVELOPMENTS RUN COUNTER TO WISHES CONVEYED TO PHNOM PENH IN SOVIET AMBASSADOR'S MAY 25 STATEMENT (REFTEL). SOVIET PRESS IN PAST TWO DAYS HAS BEGUN TO CALL ATTENTION TO JUNE 30 DEADLINE FOR US WITHDRAWAL BUT TO ASSERT THAT US WILL REMAIN INVOLVED, USING "ASIAN HANDS" TO INTERVENE IN CAMBODIA.

5. WE ARE INCREASINGLY HEARING REPORTS THAT MFA IS DEALING AT DESK LEVEL WITH LON NOL REPRESENTATIVE FROM CAMBODIAN EMBASSY HERE. PRO-SIHANOUK AMBASSADOR CHEA SON HAS REPORTEDLY COMPLAINED TO SOVIETS WITHOUT SATISFACTION.

6. COMMENT: SOVIETS MAY INDEED BE MANEUVERING TO INDUCE SIHANOUK TO COME FURTHER AWAY FROM PEKING (VIENTIANE 3702 NOTAL).
DECON 5/28/71.
BEAM

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